This document is scheduled to be published in the Federal Register on 04/01/2016 and available online at http://federalregister.gov/a/2016-07344, and on FDsys.gov

BILLING CODE 6717-01-P DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION

Duke Energy Carolinas, LLC

Project No. 2503-154

NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY OF FINAL ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

In accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 and the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission's (Commission) regulations, 18 C.F.R. Part 380 (Order No. 486, 52 FR 47897), the Office of Energy Projects has reviewed the application for a new license for the Keowee-Toxaway Hydroelectric Project, located on the Toxaway, Keowee, and Little Rivers in Oconee County and Pickens County, South Carolina and Transylvania County, North Carolina, and has prepared a final Environmental Assessment (EA) for the project. The project does not occupy federal land.

The final EA contains staff's analysis of the potential environmental impacts of the project and concludes that relicensing the project, with appropriate environmental measures, would not constitute a major federal action that would significantly affect the quality of the human environment.

A copy of the final EA is on file with the Commission and is available for public inspection. The final EA may also be viewed on the Commission's website at http://www.ferc.gov using the "eLibrary" link. Enter the docket number, excluding the last three digits in the docket number field, to access the document. For assistance, contact FERC Online Support at FERCOnlineSupport@ferc.gov or toll-free at 1-866-208-3676, or for TTY, (202) 502-8659. You may also register online at http://www.ferc.gov/docs-filing/esubscription.asp to be notified via email of new filings and issuances related to this or other pending projects. For assistance, contact FERC Online Support.

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DATED: March 28, 2016

Nathaniel J. Davis, Sr., Deputy Secretary.

[FR Doc. 2016-07344 Filed: 3/31/2016 8:45 am; Publication Date: 4/1/2016]